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OFFICIALS PAY TRIBUTE TO NATURALIST HOWELL

Acting Director W. C. Henderson and other officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, paid high tribute today to the character and scientific attainments of Arthur H. Howell, veteran scientist who died yesterday (July 10) at Emergency Hospital in Washington, D.C., following a cerebral hemorrhage that overtook him at his work on July 9.

A delegation of officials attended the funeral services in the Washington First Congregational Church at 3 P.M. (July 11), and many fellow employees joined in sending a floral tribute.

A noted naturalist and an authority on the scientific classification of mammals and birds, Mr. Howell had served the Federal Government for more than 45 years. At the time he was stricken he was examining a tray of squirrel specimens.

"Arthur Howell," said Mr. Henderson, "was an esteemed scientist upon whom we relied with confidence for information regarding many of our wildlife problems. He had accomplished much through his many publications in advancing our knowledge of the North American fauna, and through his extensive experience in the field and his laboratory studies he had become one of the country's leading

authorities. Devoted as he was to his quest for knowledge, it seems appropriate that he was at his work to the last."

"Howell was a grand man to have around," declared Dr. W. B. Bell, Chief of the Division of Wildlife Research of which Mr. Howell was a member. Dr. Bell characterized him as "the Service's best all-around authority on both birds and mammals."

Mr. Howell began his Federal service with the Bureau of Biological Survey at the age of 23, working first in northern Montana. His periodical field service had taken him to many western States, but his most notable work was done in the South. He was in charge of biological surveys in Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Georgia, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Montana, Arkansas, Alabama, and Florida.

Notable among the resulting publications was "A Biological Survey of Alabama," "Birds of Alabama," "Birds of Arkansas," "Florida Bird Life," a definitive work that has taken its place among the notable books on birds of the various States.

In 1918 Mr. Howell had the enviable honor of describing a species of bird new to science--a seaside sparrow. His other works on birds included an important study of the relation of birds to the cotton boll weevil.

Outstanding among Mr. Howell's contributions to the science of mammalogy were his revisions of the scientific classifications of many genera. Based upon intensive studies of all available specimens, Mr. Howell's publications announcing these revised classifications are valuable to naturalists and students.

Eight numbers in the famous North American Fauna series of the Federal Government were thus contributed by Mr. Howell. These publications deal with two

genera of skunks, the harvest mice, marmots, flying squirrels, pikas, chipmunks, and the ground squirrels. "A Revision of the American Arctic Hares," was published in the Journal of Mammalogy.

At the time of his death, Mr. Howell was working on a revision of the classification of red squirrels, and on accounts of the birds of Georgia, the mammals of Florida, and the mammals of Mount Mitchell, N. C.

Mr. Howell was a charter member of the American Society of Mammalogists and the chairman of the editorial board of that Society's Journal of Mammalogy. He was also a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union; a member of the Baird Ornithological Club, Cooper Ornithological Club, and the Biological Society of Washington; a corresponding member of the Linnaean Society in New York; a member of the First Congregational Church in Washington and of the Rhode Island Avenue and Suburban Citizen's Association, had worked with the choir of the Sherwood Presbyterian Church and with other musical organizations, and was an organizer of the Biological Survey Group of Friends of the National Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Howell was born on May 3, 1872, in Lake Grove, N.Y., the son of Elbert Richard and Anne Johnson (Holmes) Howell. He was named Arthur Holmes. He was educated in the public schools of Brooklyn, N.Y., but was a self-made naturalist, receiving in connection with his work most of the training that made him an authority on natural history.

On June 20, 1900, he married Grace Bowen Johnson, of Washington, D.C., who survives him. They had three children, who also survive--Ruth Alden (Mrs. E.E. Stansbury), Elizabeth Carolyn, and Elbert Jerome.

Mr. Howell had for many years resided at 2919 South Dakota Avenue, Washington, D.C.